Statewide Technology Plan
Update on Action Items
September 23, 2003

The NITC has prepared an action plan consisting of twenty items which address the NITC's four goals of supporting the development of a robust telecommunications infrastructure; supporting community and economic development; promoting the efficient delivery of government and educational services; and promoting effective planning and accountability.   The current status of the NITC's 2003-2004 action items is listed below.   A brief description of each action item is available on the NITC home page: www.nitc.state.ne.us.

Action Items	Status as of September 2003
Telecommunications Infrastructure	
1. Provide technical assistance for the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership for the development of statewide network services (TP 1.1)	Phase I (Kearney, Grand Island, Omaha and Lincoln – October 1, 2003 implementation Phase II (Norfolk, North Platte, Panhandle) – January 31, 2004 implementation.
2. Provide technical assistance for aggregation and consolidation of networks (TP 2.2)	Technical assistance for the statewide network is being provided through the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP) group. (See below for status of efforts on statewide synchronous video.)
3. Support the Nebraska Network through the Network Policy Work Group (CC 3, EC 1.2, SGC 2.3)	The Interim Network Policy Work Group has met twice (August 1 and September 3). A customer information manual, customer agreements, and other steps are underway. The next meeting is September 24.
4. Determine statewide synchronous video network requirements (TP 2.2.1, EC 1.1)	The Statewide Synchronous Video Work Group has met three times (March 26, May 28, July 30). A comprehensive update was provided to the Public Service Commission on August 26, 2003 and a list of five first-round recommendations are ready to present to the Technical Panel on September 17 and the NITC on September 30.
5. Support the development of the Nebraska Telehealth Network (CC 2)	With support from the Bioterrorism Executive Committee, the Nebraska Hospital Association is including bioterrorism response in their next phase of planning. Discussions continue with the Public Service Commission and hub hospitals on the development of a telehealth network.
6. Address the need for sufficient rural bandwidth EC (1.2)	Educational delegates from rural areas are participating on the Interim Network Policy Work Group, the Statewide Synchronous Video Work Group, and at least one person from the Panhandle is assisting with the evaluation of Phase2 Netcom bids. The Education Council task group to concentrate on this issue will be named at their meeting on September 19, 2003.

Community and Economic Development	
1. Encourage and support community IT development (CC 1)	• Communities participating in the first year of the IT Planning and Mini Grant program are completing their technology plans and beginning implementation. • An expanded Community IT Planning Workbook has been developed. • TANgents, a quarterly electronic newsletter from Technologies Across Nebraska, reaches nearly 1,500 individuals. • Homer, Dakota City, Ord, Lexington, Maskell, and Adams County are scheduling initial community meetings and will begin developing technology plans through the 2003-2004 IT Planning and Mini-Grant program.
Efficient Delivery of Government and Educational Services	
1. Determine the business case for reinstatement of the Technology Training Grant Fund (EC 2.1)	The Education Council task group to concentrate on this issue will be named at their meeting on September 19, 2003.
2. Support the Nebraska eLearning Initiative (EC 5.1)	The Nebraska eLearning Initiative has been named as one of the five project components of the Network Nebraska implementation. A project team has been named to pursue sources of grant funds.
3. Assist in the development of value-added services for the Nebraska "Click into Education" portal (EC 5.2)	Of the three projects prioritized by the Education Council: Statewide admission form, searchable database of I.T. training opportunities, and searchable database of higher education courses and programs, progress is being made on each through the cooperation of Nebraska OnLine and the staff of the NITC.
4. Study and promote effective synchronous and asynchronous instructional methods (EC 6.1)	The Education Council task group to concentrate on this issue will be named at their meeting on September 19, 2003.
5. Implement *E-Government Strategic Plan* (SGC 1.1)	Of the 26 specific "Actions and Recommendations" contained in the Plan, 15 have either been completed or progress is being made. The remaining 11 have yet to have significant progress made.
6. Develop guidelines for electronic records retention (SGC 2.2)	The SGC created a work group which drafted a best practices resource document for the retention of Lotus Notes e-mail and related documents.
7. Recommend technical standards, guidelines, best practices, and enterprise solutions (TP 2.1, SGC 2.1)	Recommendations completed for: E-fax Guideline; Wireless Local Area Network Guidelines; Remote Access Guidelines; Lotus Notes E-mail Retention Best Practices; and Directory Services Work Group Recommendations. Work is progressing on: Blocking E-mail Attachments Guideline; Blocking SPAM Guideline; and Internet .GOV Domain Naming Convention. A work group is

	reviewing the E-mail Standard for State Government; and IMServices is coordinating meeting with agencies to identify other areas which will benefit from standards and guidelines.
Planning and Accountability	
1. Improve planning process and project management (SGC 3.1)	Work not scheduled to begin until the 4th Quarter of 2003.
2. Communicate with policymakers (SGC 3.2)	Ongoing.
3. Develop and implement security policies (SGC 4.1)	Additional security policies drafted for Wireless Local Area Networks and Remote Access.
4. Conduct project reviews—statutory (TP 3.1)	None.
5. Conduct project reviews—other (TP 3.2)	None.
6. Revise procedures for reviewing IT projects and purchases by state agencies (TP 3.3)	Work scheduled to begin during 3rd Quarter.

*Action items were prepared and recommended by the NITC's advisory groups.   Numbers refer to the identification of the action item on the advisory group's action plan. The following abbreviations are used to indicate advisory groups:

CC	Community Council
EC	Education Council
SGC	State Government Council
TP	Technical Panel